

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An elongated footrest plate ~~having~~ comprising:
a footrest side; and
a rear side opposite to said footrest side, said rear side being provided with a pair of clips ~~to be~~ fixedly received into a pair of corresponding mounting holes formed in a workpiece ~~such as a vehicle body~~, said pair of clips ~~being disposed with leaving a certain~~ separable by a predefined distance ~~therebetween~~ in the a longitudinal direction of said footrest plate, ~~in alignment~~ and aligned with said ~~pair of corresponding mounting holes disposed with leaving a certain distance therebetween~~, each of said clips having a rectangular cross-sectional insertion portion insertable into ~~corresponding~~ one of said mounting holes each of said mounting holes formed in a rectangular shape,
wherein said rear side is provided with a reference protrusion at an intermediate position between said pair of clips ~~disposed with leaving the certain distance therebetween~~ in said longitudinal direction, said reference protrusion being insertable into a reference hole formed in said workpiece, said reference protrusion being formed in a rectangular cross-section defining a pair of lateral sides, each of which extends in a lateral direction ~~intersecting~~ transverse to said longitudinal direction and has a length greater than that of each lateral side of said clips extending in said lateral direction.

2. (currently amended) A footrest plate as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said insertion portions of said pair of clips defines a pair of longitudinal sides, each of ~~which extends~~ said longitudinal sides extending in said longitudinal direction and ~~has~~ having a length shorter than ~~that of~~ each longitudinal side of said mounting holes extending in said longitudinal direction by a clearance calculated based on the position of said reference protrusion.

3. (currently amended) A footrest plate ~~mounting assembly~~ as defined in claim 2, ~~wherein each of said insertion portions of said pair of clips defines a pair of longitudinal sides, each of which extends in said longitudinal direction and has a length shorter than that of each longitudinal side of said mounting holes extending in said longitudinal direction by a clearance calculated based on the position of said reference protrusion~~ wherein a second clearance defined between said reference protrusion and said reference hole is less than said clearance between said length of said longitudinal sides of said clips and said longitudinal side of said mounting holes.

4. canceled

5. canceled

6. canceled

7. (new) An elongated footrest plate, comprising:
a first side and an oppositely facing second side;
first and second clips extendable from the second side, each of the first and second clips including a rectangular shaped portion having a first parallel pair of sides longer than a second parallel pair of sides; and
a protrusion extending from the second side, the protrusion positioned between the first and second clips, the protrusion including a rectangular shaped body having a first pair of parallel walls longer than a second pair of parallel walls, the first pair of parallel walls oriented transverse to the first parallel pair of sides of the first and second clips.
8. (new) The footrest of Claim 7, further comprising:
a rib outwardly extending from and centrally disposed on the second side and extending in a longitudinal direction of the footrest plate;
wherein the first and second clips are coaxially aligned with the rib in the longitudinal direction of the footrest.
9. (new) The footrest of Claim 8, wherein the first parallel pair of sides are substantially parallel to the rib.
10. (new) The footrest of Claim 7, wherein each of the first and second clips define an integral co-molded extension of the footrest plate.

11. (new) The footrest of Claim 7, wherein the protrusion is centrally positioned between the first and second clips and further defines an integrally formed extension of the second side of the footrest plate.

12. (new) The footrest of Claim 7, further comprising a plurality of raised, substantially circular protrusions extending outwardly from the first side;

13. (new) A footrest plate system, comprising:

a footrest plate having a first side and an oppositely facing second side;

first and second clips extendable from the second side, each of the first and second clips including a rectangular shaped portion having a first parallel pair of sides longer than a second parallel pair of sides; and

a protrusion extending from the second side, the protrusion centrally positioned between the first and second clips, the protrusion including a rectangular shaped body having a first pair of parallel walls longer than a second pair of parallel walls, the first pair of parallel walls oriented transverse to the first parallel pair of sides of the first and second clips; and

a workpiece having first, second and third rectangular-shaped mounting apertures, the first mounting aperture operable to receive the rectangular shaped portion of the first clip and the second mounting aperture operable to receive the rectangular shaped portion of the second clip;

wherein the third aperture is centrally positioned between the first and second apertures, and is oriented to receive the protrusion, engagement of the protrusion with the third aperture being operable to substantially prevent rotation of the first and second clips relative to the workpiece.

14. (new) The system of Claim 13, wherein a length of the first parallel pair of sides of the first and second clips is greater than a width of the second pair of parallel walls of the protrusion.

15. (new) The system of Claim 14, further comprising:
a length of the first and second mounting apertures is greater than the length of the first parallel pair of sides of the first and second clips;
wherein a first clearance defined between the first and second clips and the first and second mounting apertures corresponds to a position of the protrusion.

16. (new) The system of Claim 15, further comprising:
a width of the third mounting aperture in a longitudinal direction of the footrest plate is greater than a width of the protrusion in the longitudinal direction operable to define a second clearance between the third mounting aperture and the protrusion;
wherein the second clearance is less than the first clearance.

17. (new) The system of Claim 13, further comprising a rib outwardly extending from and centrally disposed on the second side and extending in a lateral direction of the footrest plate.

18. (new) The system of Claim 17, wherein the first and second clips are coaxially aligned with the rib in the longitudinal direction of the footrest.

19. (new) The system of Claim 13, further comprising:
a predefined distance operably separating the first and second clips;
wherein the first and second mounting apertures are separable by the
predefined distance to operably permit engagement of the first and second clips with the
first and second mounting apertures.

20. (new) The system of Claim 13, wherein a length of the first pair of parallel
walls of the protrusion is greater than a width of the second parallel pair of sides of the
first and second clips.

21. (new) An elongated footrest system, comprising:

a footrest plate having a first side and an oppositely facing second side;

first and second clips extendable from the second side, the first and second clips coalignable in a longitudinal direction of the footrest and separable by a predefined distance, and each including a rectangular cross-sectional insertion portion;

a workpiece having first and second rectangular-shaped mounting apertures separated by the predefined distance and a third aperture positioned between the first and second mounting apertures, the first and second mounting apertures each operable to receive the rectangular cross-sectional insertion portion of one of the first and second clips, and the third aperture extending in a lateral direction transverse to the longitudinal direction;

a protrusion extendable from the second side and positioned between and coaxially aligned with the first and second clips in the longitudinal direction, the protrusion further having a rectangular cross-section defining a pair of lateral sides;

wherein the protrusion is operably received in the third aperture, and includes a length greater than the cross-sectional insertion portion of the clips extending in the lateral direction, engagement of the protrusion with the third aperture being operable to substantially prevent rotation of the first and second clips relative to the workpiece.

22. (new) The system of Claim 21, wherein each of the first and second clips comprise a co-molded integral extension of the footrest plate.

23. (new) The system of Claim 21, wherein the protrusion comprises a co-molded integral extension of the footrest plate.